

THE RECOVERY NETWORK

• Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, a California company has embarked on an effort that I believe demonstrates how entrepreneurship and public service can go hand in hand.

The Recovery Network is a new nationwide cable television program dedicated to helping people recover from the devastating disease of addiction. This Santa Monica-based network is the first of its kind and the only broadcast network in the world devoted entirely to substance abuse recovery and prevention.

It is estimated that more than 130 million Americans suffer from or are affected by alcoholism, drug abuse, eating disorders, depression, gambling and other addictions. The Recovery Network offers a lifeline of help to millions of those in need offering group recovery sessions, information on 12-step recovery programs, a 24-hour 800-number help line, discussion shows designed for children of alcoholics and parents with drug abuse problems, and information shows on the pharmacological effects of alcohol and other addictive substances. Recovery Network serves not only those in need of help, but also the friends, families, teachers, and professionals seeking guidance and tools to effect change.

Another important part of the Recovery Network is the localized programming effort. "Neighborhood Recovery" enables local community groups to offer their services through cable programming. Organizations like Californians for Drug-Free Youth, and the Miami Coalition for a Safe and Drug-Free Community can reach out to people in their specific area offering information on local meetings and other resources.

I believe this type of public service programming is exactly what Congress envisioned when it passed the Cable Communications Act in 1984, " * * * to provide the widest possible diversity of information sources and service to the public" and " * * * assure that cable systems are responsive to the needs and interest of the local community."

Community cable became a permanent fixture on the American landscape in 1948. Its purpose was to service remote communities with a master antenna providing a clear television broadcast signal. Three years later, 70 cable systems services 14,000 homes nationally. Since then, cable television has become a vital full-service link to citizens in every city and town in the United States, serving more than 67 million households nationwide.

People suffering from alcohol and drug addiction have found the Recovery Network there to help when they were most in need:

One young couple from Ohio who was traveling and struggling to maintain their sobriety early in recovery happened upon the Recovery Network on their hotel television. They said " * * * we turned you on unknowingly, and it was like an AA meeting right in our

hotel room. It really helped us refocus on what is important, and that is AA and staying sober."

An Indiana viewer wrote "I just want to say thank you for the programs and the light at the end of the tunnel that they showed me."

A Michigan man wrote "Thank you for making such a big difference in my life."

A California woman wrote "When I can't make a meeting, I know you're there for me."

Recovery Network has become a leader in delivering effective programming which provides solutions to these problems in the privacy of the home and in offering positive lifestyle choices as an alternative.

The Recovery Network is supported by every major drug abuse prevention and recovery organization in the Nation, including the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America, the National Drug Prevention League, National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors and the National Parents Resource Institute for Drug Education.

Mr. President, I am proud that the Recovery Network is a product of the State of California and I wish them much success in their endeavor. •

TRIBUTE TO DONN TIBBETTS, UNION LEADER STATE HOUSE BUREAU CHIEF, ON HIS RETIREMENT

• Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. New Hampshire's media corps will suffer a great loss in January 1998 when Donn Tibbetts steps down after 25 years as The Union Leader newspaper's Concord, New Hampshire Bureau Chief. Donn is a New Hampshire institution, and will be missed by all of us who call him our friend.

Donn's career in journalism has spanned nearly 50 years—first as a broadcaster and then, since April 3, 1972, as a reporter and columnist for the Loeb newspapers. He has covered the often-colorful politics of the Granite State, writing the well-known "Under the State House Dome" column. As Dean of the State House press corps, he has been a leader in chronicling presidential primaries, state elections, nine governors, and the State Legislature—the largest in the nation. He has traveled to national conventions for the Democrat and Republican parties, interviewed presidents, and even sat down to talk with me on many occasions! My interviews with Donn always left us sharing a laugh—and the resulting stories were always fair, thorough, and forthright, as is always Donn's style.

Donn's knowledge and expertise about New Hampshire politics is second to none. He is the author of "The Closest U.S. Senate Race in History," a book about the hotly contested, historic election for New Hampshire's U.S. Senate seat in 1974 between John Durkin and Louis Wyman—an election

that was won by one vote, with a subsequent second election being held the following year.

Donn's accomplishments—from sports disk jockey to television host to political columnist—have brought him many accolades from distinguished individuals across the country. The late William Loeb, frank publisher of the Union Leader, said Donn is "a man of great integrity." Former New Hampshire Governor John Sununu said of Donn: "Nobody is fairer and nobody is more of a credit to their profession than Donn. . ."

Donn is originally from Manchester, and then went on to attend Lasalle Military Academy in Long Island, and the University of New Hampshire. He served 28 years in the military and the reserves with the same honor and distinction he has brought to his career as a journalist. He has been a community and civic leader, as well as a dedicated husband, father and grandfather.

Retirement is a time of reflection, and I know that Donn will spend his retirement years enjoying the memories of his rich and fulfilling career. I have been told that he is leaving for Corpus Christi, Texas the day after he retires, to spend time traveling with his wife, Janie, and visiting his seven grandchildren and twin great-granddaughters.

Donn, I wish you all the best for a wonderful retirement. You are a man of character, commitment and dignity. We will all miss you. •

IMF AND US FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO INDONESIA

• Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I rise today to express my concern about the current financial crisis in Indonesia and the decision of the United States and the international financial community to provide bailout assistance.

As you know, Mr. President, the International Monetary Fund announced on October 31 that it was putting together a \$23 billion aid package for Jakarta. This money will allow Indonesia to defend its currency, which has depreciated severely in the last few months. The IMF, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, and the Indonesian government will together provide this \$23 billion in financing.

In addition to the IMF package, several countries, including the United States, are offering "second-line" loan guarantees that Indonesia can use if needed. The Administration has guaranteed a \$3 billion loan to Indonesia as part of the Treasury Department's exchange stabilization fund. This fund is the same one used to loan \$20 billion to Mexico during the peso crisis of 1994 and 1995.

Mr. President, I understand that the Administration hopes the \$23 billion IMF financing will be enough for Indonesia to overcome the present crisis and that Jakarta will not need to draw on the \$3 billion "second-line" loan from the United States. Nevertheless,